(b) whether any investigation was made and estimates prepared; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in undertaking the work?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—" (a) & (b) Yes, Sir.

" (c) A revised estimate has been called for from the concerned Minor Irrigation Overseer and the work has not been started as the revised estimate is still pending sanction."

Irrigation Schemes for Pudukkottai.

* 708 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the present stage of consideration of the Irrigation Schemes mentioned by the Hon. Minister for Public Works in his answer to Starred Question No. 134, dated 25th November 1952?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Of the four schemes mentioned, the two across the Vellar have since been dropped, as the cost of construction of permanent anicuts was found to be prohibitive and the present practice of the ryots themselves putting up temporary anicuts is found to be more suitable and economical. In regard to the scheme across the Aniar near Sinayakudi the Chief Engineer has been asked to examine the availability of supplies of water and formulate a scheme to give the best possible results. As for the Karambakudi scheme, the Chief Engineer has been asked to submit complete proposals for Government's consideration without any avoidable delay."

Amendment of the Shops and Establishments Act.

* 709 Q.—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) whether Sri Subrahmanyam, I.C.S. (Special Officer) has made any recommendations for the amendment of the Shops and Establishments Act of 1947; and

(b) if so, what are the recommendations?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) Yes, Sir.

" (b) An extract of the Special Officer's report [a] containing suggestions for the amendment of the Madras Shops and Establishments Act is placed on the table of the House."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" ஸ்ரீ சுப்ரமணியம் அவர்கள் செய்திருக்கும் சிபார்சுகளை எப்பொழுது அமுலாக்கப்போகிறார்கள்? மத்திய சர்க்கார் இதற்காக சட்டம் ஒன்று கொண்டுவருவதாக மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்லுவார்கள், அப்படி மத்திய சர்க்கார் சட்டத்தைக் கொண்டுவருவதாகயிருந்தால் எப்போதுதான் அதைக் கொண்டுவரப்போகிறார்கள் என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவிப்பாரா ? அந்தச் சட்டம் வராமல் போனால் இந்த சர்க்கார் என்ன நடவடிக்கை எடுக்கும் ? "

[a] Printed as Appendix I on pages 581–585 infra.